

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the above-identified Office Action. The above listing of the claims supersedes any previous listing. Favorable reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Specification

Amendments to the specification have been proposed. These are deemed to overcome the issues raised in paragraphs ##2,3. In connection with the terms such as additive synthesis, head-count data and passing sequence data, a quick search engine search reveals 41,800 hits for additive synthesis, and 5,340 hits for head-count data. This indicates that these terms are widely used and should be considered to be terms of art. While only a limited number of hits occurred for the term "passing sequence data", it is submitted that the term is self-explanatory (viz., means data which is received and passed along) and when taken in the context of the remaining disclosure by a person skilled in the art to which the claimed invention pertains would not present a handicap to understanding what was meant. The remaining issues are deemed overcome by the amendments set forth above.

Claim Amendments

In this response claims 1-9 have been cancelled and have been replaced with a new set 10-12. The cancellation of the rejected claims of course renders moot the claim objections, and rejections under 35 USC § 112, and § 103.

New Claims

The newly presented claims 10-12 find support in at least Fig. 32 on and paragraph [0054] wherein a second embodiment of the present invention is set forth. Claim 10 sets forth the functions which are found in steps S13, 14, 15 and S27 of Fig. 32. New claim 11 is directed to step S16 found in Fig. 32, while new claim 12 covers the subject matter of step S6 (Fig. 4).

The second embodiment of the invention is based on a two stage load distribution method, wherein the user administration servers which use the ID numbers rapidly record the accesses, and wherein recording of the distribution to the user administration servers is carried out in order. That is to say, with the embodiments of the invention, the load distribution devices are such as to rapidly distribute the incoming access load to the proxy servers. This is followed by the proxy servers using the ID numbers contained in each access to select which user administration server to which the load distribution is to be directed. This user administration server selection permits high speed processing and with the ID number being used so that accesses by the same user are directed to the same user administration server and for the same memory array to be written to, whereby the management of a plurality of cycles can be executed efficiently and quickly.

Further, each of the user administration servers in which the access from the user terminal is recorded, for example, the accesses are assigned indexes and are arrayed in order on the basis of first in first served, is such that the distribution process is carried out until the process is completed and enables the number of servers to be simply ascertained and for the overall processing power to be

improved.

In comparison the Barone, Jr. et al. fails to disclose the combination of the load distribution, the recordation and the ordering. It is accordingly submitted that a transfer of teachings from the Mitsunori reference to Barone, Jr. et al. would not result in the realization of the claimed subject matter. It is therefore submitted that the subject matter of newly presented claim 10 is both novel and non-obvious in light of the disclosures of Barone, Jr. et al. and Mitsunori when taken as a whole.

More specifically, Barone, Jr. et al. discloses a system wherein access is transmitted from a terminal and wherein a load balancer is used to distribute the accesses to servers. Further, in this arrangement a plurality of access from the same terminal is distributed to different servers. This is different from the claimed arrangement in that as different from a single stage the load balancer of the claimed subject matter is used with user proxy servers and establishes a two stage load distribution. Further, Barone, Jr. et al. fails to disclose the use of ID numbers in connection with the process of distribution of load to the disclosed servers.

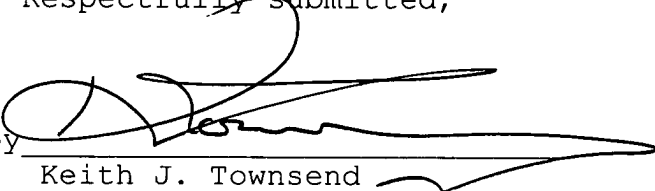
Mitsunori, on the other hand, differs from the claimed subject matter in that in accordance with the invention, ID numbers are predetermined and are used to promote high speed processing via selection of the user administration server based on these ID numbers. There is no suggestion of such a technique in the Mitsunori reference. Accordingly, the claimed subject matter is deemed to distinguish thereover in both terms of novelty and obviousness.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as they have been newly presented are allowable over the art which has been applied in this Office Action. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

by



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